Statement

District-wise number of villages with and without Post offices in Madhya Pradesh.

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of villages with post office	No. of villages without post offices
1.	Bhopal	61	481
2.	Chhatarpur	202	990
3.	Panna	144	904
4.	Tikamgarh	167	806
5.	Sagar	180	1901
6.	Damoh	171	1228
7.	Hoshangabad	218	1336
8.	Narsinghpur	170	911
9.	Vidisha	148	1476
10.	Raisen	192	1317
11.	Guna	178	2087
12.	Shivpuri	207	1252
13.	Gwalior	141	635
14.	Datia	86	359
15.	Sehore	146	926
16.	Rajgarh (Biaora)	142	1594
17.	Indore	107	538
18.	Dewas	153	981
19.	Dhar	193	1378
20.	Khandwa (East Nimar)	197	871
21.	Khergone (West Nimar)	280	1891
22.	Mandsaur	279	1482
23.	Murena	237	1169
24.	Bhind	234	699
25.	Ratlam	154	923
26.	Jhabua	154	1203
27.	Ujjain	160	975
28.	Shajapur	159	965
29.	Raipur	549	3484
30.	Jabalpur	304	2096
31.	Bilaspur	506	2994
32.	Shahdol	260	1846
33.	Sidhi	181	1701
34.	Raigarh	407	1837
35.	Surguja	264	2168
36.	Chindwara	250	1734
37.	Betul	206	1200
38.	Rewa	310	2415
39.	Satna	265	1775
40.	Balaghat	209	1179
41.	Mandla	205	1955
42.	Seoni	183	1430
43.	Bastar	553	3327
44.	Durg	277	1544
45.	Rajnandgaon	199	2179

स्मारक डाक टिकटों का जारी किया जाना

1938. **श्री. अजीत जोगी** : क्या **संचार मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का यह नीतिगत निर्णय है कि किसी महान व्यक्ति की याद में कोई स्मारक डाक-टिकट सामान्यतः उनकी 10वीं/25वीं/50वीं 100वीं पुण्यतिथि अथवा जन्मशती के अवसर पर जारी किया जाता है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह निर्णय कब से प्रभावी होगा ;

(ग) क्या उपर्युक्त निर्णय के संबंध में अब तक कोई अपवाद भी हुए हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री सुखराम) :

(क) और (ख) जी हां । वर्तमान नीति यही है ।

(ग) और (घ) विनिर्दिष्ट वर्षगांठों/जन्म शताब्दी के अलावा अन्य अवसरों पर भी अर्थात् सभी संबद्ध पहलुओं पर विचार करने के बाद स्मारक/विशेष डाक-टिकट जारी किए गए हैं ।

Norms for Locations of Mail Boxes

1939. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the methods of norms to identify the location for providing mail boxes;

(b) whether these norms are observed; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not providing mail boxes at Railway Stations and S. T. Stands in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Letter boxes in urban areas are normally provided in central locations, keeping in mind factors like density of population, public requirement and a minimum distance of 1 Km. from the nearest letter box. In rural areas they are planted near places of general importance at a central point in the village so as to be of maximum advantage to the public. Government's objective is to provide the facility of letter box in every village with a population of 500 and above in the 8th Plan.

(b) and (c) The above guidelines are being kept in mind when planting letter boxes. In Maharashtra, 856 villages with

population over 500 are yet to be provided with letter box facility as on 31-3-94. The target is to cover these villages in the current year. In other areas, letter boxes are being provided in central locations, including Railway Stations and S. T. Stands, in pursuance of the stated principles, except for these cases where density of population, public requirements or objection by civil authorities warrant relaxation of these norms.

Tender for Telecom Service

1940. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported in the press a decision has been taken to prohibit public sector telecommunications agencies, operating under the auspices of both the Union and State Governments from participating in the tenders about to be floated for telecommunications services;

(b) if so, the rationale for taking such a decision; and

(c) the likely consequences for the domestic communications industry on account of Government's decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) Due to resource constraints under the new Telecom Policy the work of expansion and upgradation of the telecom facilities in the country is envisaged to be supplemented by the private sector. In the case of public sector, it is felt that resource prioritisation demands that the concentrate in their respective areas of operations with a view to optimising both the utilisation of the scarce resources of the Government as well as their performance in the areas assigned to them.

Computerisation of Post Offices in the Country

1941. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to computerise the Post Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the number of Post Offices that have been computerised so far;

(c) whether any target date has been fixed to computerise all the Post Offices in the country;

(d) if so, the details therof; and

(e) the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Department's programme of modernising the postal service during the current year lays emphasis on improving counter services and front office activities in Post Offices. This is being achieved through computer based counter machines which provide all postal services including savings bank functions, through a single window and ensure speedy, efficient and responsive service to the customer.

(b) About 510 Post Offices in different parts of the country have been provided with computer based counter machines so far.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. During the current Plan period computer based counter machines are being provided selectively to the more important and busy Post Offices where introduction of these machines will help to improve the efficiency of service to the customer. With the availibility of resources, a total of 5000 computer based counter machines are planned for introduction during the VIIIth Plan period. More than 1000 counter machines have been installed in different Post Offices.

More than 800 more counter machines are in different stages of installation in Post Offices all over the country.

Proposal to set up Modern Telephone Exchanges

1942. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some modern telephone exchanges during Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the number of Modern Telephone Exchanges proposed to be set up and actually set-up so far; and

(c) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 8th five year plan of the DOT envisages addition of 93 lakh lines of net switching capacity. The actual number of the telephone exchanges to be set up is a function of technology registered demand etc. The location-wise expansion programme is planned on year to year basis depending on the availability of exchange capacity and other resources. Upto 31-10-94 34,537 lakh net Sw. Capacity has been provided.

(c) The state wise addition of switching capacity during 9th five year plan period and achievement during 1-4-94 to 31-10-94 are given in the enclosed statement.